

**Governor's Council on Food Security
Minutes
November 13, 2018**

The Governor's Council on Food Security held a public meeting on November 13, 2018 beginning at approximately 1:05 P.M. at the following locations:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health
4150 Technology Way Room 303
Carson City, NV 89706

Rawson Neal Hospital
1650 Community College Dr.
Training Room B193
Las Vegas, NV, 89146

Board Members Present

Steve Fisher, Administrator, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) (Carson City)
Homa Anooshehpour, Administrator, Division of Food and Nutrition Services, Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) (Phone)
Robert Thompson, Deputy Administrator, DWSS (Carson City)
Christy McGill, Director, Safe and Respectful Learning Environments, Nevada Department of Education (NDE) (Carson City)
Cherie Jamason, Director of Ending Hunger Initiatives, Food Bank of Northern Nevada (FBNN) (Carson City)
Aurora Buffington, Faculty Instructor, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE) (Phone)
Kenneth Osgood, MD, Board of Health, Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) (Las Vegas)
Rob Medeiros, CEO, Boomtown Casino Hotel and Reserve Casino Hotel (Phone)
Sarah Adler, Healthy Communities Coalition of Lyon & Storey Counties (HCC) (Las Vegas)
Jodi Tyson, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, Three Square Food Bank (Las Vegas)
Chuck Duarte, CEO, Community Health Alliance (CHA) (Phone)
Annmarie Feiler, Executive Director, Urban Seed Foundation (Phone)
Deacon Tom Roberts, President and CEO, Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada (Las Vegas)
Marcia Blake, Executive Director, James Seastrand Helping Hands of North Las Vegas (Las Vegas)
Amber Bosket, Executive Director, State Renewable Energy (Phone)

Board Members Not Present

Jerri Conrad, Interim Director, NDA
Amy Hill, Government Relations, Walmart
Julie Kotchevar, Administrator, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)

Staff Present

Karissa Loper, MPH, Deputy Bureau Chief, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness (CFCW), DPBH (Carson City)

Jeff Duncan, Social Services Chief II, Planning, Advocacy and Community Services Unit, Aging and Disabilities Services Division (ADSD) (Las Vegas)

Laura Urban, Food Security and Wellness Manager, Office of Food Security (OFS), CFCW, DPBH, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) (Carson City)

Gina Gimenez, Program Officer I, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Section, CFCW, DPBH (Carson City)

Cathy Wright, Administrative Assistant III, WIC, CFCW, DPBH (Carson City)

Also Present

Barbara Paulsen, Nevadans for the Common Good

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Announcements

Chair Fisher called the meeting to order at 1:05 P.M.

Roll call was taken, and it was determined a quorum of the Governor's Council on Food Security (GCFS) was present.

Chair Fisher called for public comment. There was no public comment.

2. ACTION ITEM: Welcome and introduction of two (2) new Governor's Council on Food Security (GCFS) members

Chair Fisher welcomed two (2) new GCFS members: 1) Deacon Tom Roberts, President and CEO of Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada and 2) Marcia Blake, Executive Director of James Seastrand Helping Hands of North Vegas Valley.

3. ACTION ITEM: Approve minutes from September 19, 2018 Council meeting

Chair Fisher asked if there were any corrections to the draft minutes from the September 19, 2018 meeting.

CHAIR FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 19, 2018 MEETING. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY CHERIE JAMASON. KENNETH OSGOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

4. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve 2019 meeting dates

Chair Fisher presented the 2019 GCFS meeting dates. The handout can be found [here](#).

Chuck Duarte asked if the 2019 GCFS meeting dates would change due to the 2019 Legislative Session.

Chair Fisher confirmed certain 2019 GCFS meeting dates may change due to the 2019 Legislative Session. GCFS members will be notified of any meeting cancellations or rescheduling.

CHAIR FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2019 GCFS MEETING DATES. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY MR. DUARTE. SARAH ADLER SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

5. **ACTION ITEM: Present and identify next steps regarding increased funding for home-delivered meals (HDMs)**

Jeff Duncan stated many key stakeholders advocated for increased HDM program funding throughout the 2017 Legislative Session. These efforts led to an increase of \$2.1 million being allocated to the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) for the HDM program. Approximately \$1.1 million was designated for equipment and infrastructure, and another million dollars was designated for direct services. This allotment was intended to address the HDM program waitlist in Nevada and to increase the Nevada State HDM reimbursement rate to \$3.15 per meal. Approximately 145 clients were taken off the HDM program waitlist and are now receiving services due to this increase.

Dr. Kenneth Osgood asked how many older Nevadans are currently on the HDM program waitlist.

Mr. Duncan stated as of November 2018, Catholic Charities had fully evaluated 91 older Nevadans and deemed them eligible for the HDM program, with another 467 older individuals waiting to be assessed. The City of Henderson currently has 109 older individuals waiting to be assessed.

Deacon Tom Roberts shared additional data from Catholic Charities: as of November 13, 2018, Catholic Charities had served 2,125 clients, including 2,000 who had been previously served, and 125 new clients of the 145 mentioned previously by Mr. Duncan. In addition, Catholic Charities has assessed 132 clients; all of whom are currently waiting for services. Currently, 143 clients are waiting to be assessed.

Dr. Osgood asked what agencies offer the HDM program throughout Nevada.

Deacon Roberts stated Washoe County Health District and Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada offer the HDM program in Northern Nevada. In Southern Nevada, the City of Henderson, City of Boulder City, and Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada offer HDM programs. Agencies from both Northern and Southern Nevada support rural partners offering HDM programs.

Mr. Duncan stated ADSD had 26 subawardees across Nevada using Older American Act (OAA) funds. Throughout the 2018 Federal Fiscal Year, OAA subawardees served 8,763 unduplicated older Nevadans through the HDM program, equating to 1,586,464 million meals, or 30,000 meals per week.

Deacon Roberts stated the demand is more than what the waiting list numbers reflect, but great progress has been made since the 2017 Legislative Session.

Dr. Osgood asked if Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada requires clients to complete an intake form to receive services.

Deacon Roberts responded yes, eligible clients undergo an assessment by a case manager including questions about need and access.

Mr. Duncan stated all eligible HDM program clients have been identified as home-bound. Additional information about intake data would have to be requested from OAA subawardees.

Marcia Blake stated James Seastrand Helping Hands of North Las Vegas collects information about healthcare, transportation, etc. for their grocery delivery program. She stated other OAA subawardees also track this information, though tracking methodologies and systems may be different across the different organizations.

Dr. Osgood asked if HDM program subawardees collaborate with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Deacon Roberts stated Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada and the VA conduct client referrals between the two (2) organizations. Catholic Charities' case management assessment allows case managers to refer clients to other programs/resources for which they are eligible.

Robert Thompson asked if the case management assessment includes questions regarding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid.

Mr. Duncan stated there have been initiatives across Nevada to promote SNAP at congregate meal sites, but Medicaid cannot be promoted per OAA requirements.

6. ACTION ITEM: Present, discuss, and approve GCFS support regarding inclusion of HDMs in the Frail and Elderly Waiver

Jodi Tyson stated HDM programs are currently covered under the Physical Disability Medicaid Waiver, but not under the Frail and Elderly Medicaid Waiver. HDM programs were included under the Frail and Elderly Waiver previously but were removed due to lack of use. Per the recommendations approved in the report, *Nutrition Programs for Older Nevadans and Preliminary Recommendations*, Three Square Food Bank is working to ensure inclusion of HDM programs under the Frail and Elderly Medicaid Waiver again.

Ms. Tyson clarified her presentation was informational, and she will continue to provide updates as needed.

7. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve updates to the GCFS Policy Subcommittee Policy Recommendations Chart

Cherie Jamason presented the revised GCFS Policy Subcommittee Recommendations Chart. The revised chart can be found [here](#).

Two (2) Administrative Policy recommendations were added, per the September 11, 2018 Policy Subcommittee meeting: 1) increase the asset limit under Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) from \$6,000 to \$10,000 and from one (1) car to two (2) cars per household and 2) recommend DWSS apply for a Food and Nutrition Services Waiver to increase the SNAP shelter deduction allowance.

Mr. Duarte asked whether the recommendation of increasing meal reimbursements to create parity among child and older adult meal programs would be included in a state agency's budget proposal for the 2019 Legislative Session.

Mr. Fisher responded no, the recommendations outlined will require sponsorship from one or more outside agencies/legislators.

Ms. Tyson stated Three Square Food Bank has identified a sponsor for the recommendation of increasing meal reimbursements to create parity among child and older adult meal programs; it will be a Finance Committee Bill. Three Square Food Bank is currently working with ADSD to identify the cost of increasing meal reimbursements for congregate and HDM programs to \$3.20 per meal. Ms. Tyson will share this information with Laura Urban to include in the GCFS Policy Recommendations Executive Summary.

Dr. Osgood suggested the GCFS be more aggressive and request funding comparable to the total cost of the meal.

Chair Fisher recommended a tiered approach to requesting additional funds for meal reimbursements, and he added the GCFS should begin planning for the 2021 Legislative Session.

CHAIR FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS TO THE GCFS POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS CHART. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY MS. ADLER. DR. OSGOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

8. ACTION ITEM: Present, discuss, and approve the GCFS Policy Recommendations Executive Summary

Laura Urban presented the updated GCFS 2018 Policy Recommendations Executive Summary to include both HDM and congregate meal programs within the recommendation of "Increase meal reimbursement rates to create parity between child and senior meal programs." The revised Summary can be found [here](#).

Ms. Urban will update the document with the total anticipated cost once received by Ms. Tyson.

CHAIR FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO THE GCFS 2018 POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY MS. JAMASON. DR. OSGOOD SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

9. Present 2019 Bill Draft Requests (BDR) related to food security

Chair Fisher shared two (2) BDRs related to food security: 1) BDR 56, revising provisions related to the GCFS and 2) BDR 28, establishing the Nevada Fresh Food Financing Initiative. He stated food security BDRs will be tracked by the Office of Food Security. BDR updates will continue to be provided at GCFS meetings during the 2019 Legislative Session.

10. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve changes relating to *Food Security in Nevada: Nevada's Plan for Action (i.e. the Food Security Plan)*

Ms. Urban stated an objective relating to older Nevadans has been added to the Food Security Plan, as requested at the September 19, 2018 GCFS meeting. The objective is under FEED, Goal 2: "Identify and support strategies to increase participation in nutrition programs and services intended to support self-sufficiency among older Nevadans." The revised Food Security Plan can be found [here](#).

CHAIR FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO THE FOOD SECURITY PLAN. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY DR. OSGOOD. MR. THOMPSON SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

11. Statewide Food Security Summit update

Ms. Urban stated the 2018 Food Security Summit took place on November 8, 2018 in Las Vegas. Approximately 50 food security stakeholders attended and participated in an action planning session to enhance collaboration among Nevada's food security network. Action items developed will be compiled into a Collaborations Report which will be finalized and distributed in 2019.

12. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve changes relating to *Nutrition Programs for Older Nevadans and Preliminary Recommendations*.

Chair Fisher stated the title of the report, *Nutrition Programs Gap Analysis for Older Nevadans*, has been updated to *Nutrition Programs for Older Nevadans and Preliminary Recommendations*, per the September 19, 2018 GCFS meeting.

Additionally, there was a misprint on page 56 of the [report](#) in previous iterations: "For congregate meals, the fixed-fee reimbursement rate is \$2.65. ADSD has since increased the reimbursement rates for HDM to \$3.15." "Congregate meals" in the first sentence was corrected to "HDM."

CHAIR FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CHANGES TO THE REPORT, *NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR OLDER NEVADANS AND PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS*. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY DR. OSGOOD. MS. JAMASON SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT

13. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve next steps regarding the proposed *Research and Analysis Subcommittee*.

Chair Fisher stated the GCFS requested the establishment of a Research and Analysis Subcommittee at the September 19, 2018 meeting. He suggested the Subcommittee plan to meet once or twice, then assign the OFS with data collection and analysis. Chair Fisher asked for volunteers and/or designees to participate on the Research and Analysis Subcommittee.

Dr. Osgood and Aurora Buffington volunteered to participate.

Chair Fisher stated the OFS will send an email to GCFS members soliciting additional participants.

14. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve the 2018 Governor’s Council on Food Security (Draft) Annual Report

Ms. Urban presented the [2018 GCFS Draft Annual Report](#). Additional information will be added before final submission, including information about the 2018 Food Security Summit and a Technology Subcommittee summary.

CHAIR FISHER ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2018 GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON FOOD SECURITY (DRAFT) ANNUAL REPORT. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY MR. DUARTE. MS. BLAKE SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

15. ACTION ITEM: Present and approve future agenda items

Ms. Jamason requested an update regarding the collaboration between the GCFS, OFS, and the Office of Community Partnerships and Grants which administers the Grants Management Advisory Committee (GMAC).

Chair Fisher requested an update of the 2018 GCFS Annual Report and asked for a standing agenda item regarding food security-related BDRs.

Ms. Buffington requested an update regarding wireless Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) machines for farmers’ markets.

Ms. Tyson requested an update regarding the development of a Subcommittee comprised of GCFS and Commission on Aging members to address food insecurity issues among older Nevadans.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Paulsen from Nevada for the Common Good stated she appreciated the conversation regarding congregate and HDM program meal reimbursements, and she thanked the GCFS for addressing hunger among older Nevadans.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Fisher adjourned the meeting at 3:00PM.